

## **E-Authentication Publishes Interface Specification 1.1 for SAML 1.0 Artifact Profile**

The E-Authentication Initiative has adopted and currently supports Interface Specification 1.1 for the SAML 1.0 Artifact Profile (IS 1.1).

Effective immediately, new E-Authentication Federation Credential Service Providers (CSPs) are required to configure to IS 1.1, but may support Interface Specification 1.0 if they so choose. Current CSPs who are already in the Federation will be required to support IS 1.1 and provide backward compatibility to IS1.0 until all existing Relying Parties have conformed to IS 1.1.

New Federation Member Relying Parties (RPs) will be required to configure to IS 1.1. Those relying parties that have begun development efforts using IS 1.0 may continue on that path. These relying parties, as well as existing Federation member relying parties, may choose to implement IS 1.1 on their own schedule. However, relying parties that choose not to implement IS 1.1 should be aware that they will only be able to accept assertions from the current list of existing Federation CSPs that support IS 1.0 and not to any future CSPs that do not elect to support IS 1.0.

All efforts will be made to minimize the burden for existing RPs that elect to migrate to IS 1.1. Those electing to migrate should follow the notification process below:

- Contact the E-Authentication Help Desk ([eauth.service.help@gsa.gov](mailto:eauth.service.help@gsa.gov)) to complete a Change Notification request. A member of the Change Control Group will contact the requestor to complete a Change Proposal Form.
- Configure to IS 1.1. Lab support will be made available upon request via the above E-Authentication Help Desk.
- Perform self-testing in the E-Authentication InterOp lab environment (sandbox) at the discretion of the member.
- Upon successful testing, an E-Authentication Operations staff person will be in contact to coordinate an Operational Readiness demonstration with connected CSP members.
- Perform Operations Readiness demonstrations with CSPs as coordinated through E-Authentication.

Please note, SAML 1.0 remains the authentication protocol for the E-Authentication architecture at Level 1 and 2 assurance. Interface Specification 1.1 supports SAML 1.0 and should not be confused with SAML 1.1, which the E-Authentication Initiative has not adopted. The E-Authentication Initiative is undertaking the necessary steps to adopt SAML 2.0 and will publish an implementation strategy and migration plan when this work is complete.